

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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<b>COUNTRY</b>	East Germany	<b>REPORT</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Activities at Cottbus Airfield	<b>DATE DISTR.</b>	20 January 1955
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		<b>REFERENCES</b>	

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. Flying Training of the East German Air Force:

- a. Three groups of pilots, with 25 men in each group, are undergoing elementary flying training at the present time. The current training cycle is said to be the first one since March 1954, when a maximum of 75 pilots completed training; the best of those have already arrived in the USSR or are about to proceed to the USSR for jet conversion training.
- b. Flying training in the elementary stage is carried out solely on the twenty available YAK-18's.
- c. Poor weather conditions have reduced flying training to a standstill.
- d. No YAK-11's have been observed.

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2. Affiliation with the Soviet Air Force at Welzow:

Twice a week instructors and flight commanders visit the SAF at Welzow by road for some as yet unspecified form of training in connection with IL-28's. A party of four is driven by Captain Ladusch. It is thought that a total of twelve pilots take part in these visits.

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3. Joint East German - Polish - Czechoslovakian Maneuvers:

- a. Under General Kessler's orders, civilians are kept from visiting the so-called "House of Officers". The reason is said to lie in the frequent visits of military missions from Poland and Czechoslovakia.
- b. Gossip indicates that these visits are connected with plans for joint maneuvers of the East German and Polish air forces in the spring.

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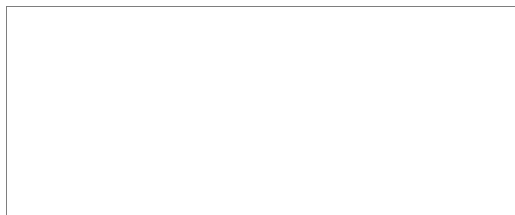


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4. Supply Office:

Major Belknap, the head of "Dienststelle 5" is responsible for rations and other supplies. Some difficulties have arisen in regard to rations due to lack of transportation.



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